

Administration of Joseph R. Biden, Jr., 2023

Statement on the Situation in Sudan

May 4, 2023

The violence taking place in Sudan is a tragedy, and it is a betrayal of the Sudanese people's clear demand for civilian government and a transition to democracy. I join the peace-loving people of Sudan and leaders around the world in calling for a durable cease-fire between the belligerent parties. This violence, which has already stolen the lives of hundreds of civilians and began during the holy month of Ramadan, is unconscionable. It must end.

Since the earliest moments of this conflict, the United States has facilitated the safe departure of thousands of people—Americans and others—by land, sea, and air and conducted intensive negotiations to deescalate violence. Our diplomatic efforts to urge all parties to end the military conflict and allow unhindered humanitarian access continue, as do our efforts to assist those remaining Americans, including by providing them information on exit options. The United States is already responding to this unfolding humanitarian crisis and stands ready to support enhanced humanitarian assistance when conditions allow.

The United States stands with the people of Sudan, and we are acting to support their commitment to a future of peace and opportunity. Today I issued a new Executive order that expands U.S. authorities to respond to the violence that began on April 15 with sanctions that hold individuals responsible for threatening the peace, security, and stability of Sudan; undermining Sudan's democratic transition; using violence against civilians; or committing serious human rights abuses.

The Sudanese people suffered 30 years under an authoritarian regime, but they never gave up on their commitment to democracy or their hope for a better future. Their dedication brought down a dictator, only to endure a military takeover in October 2021, and now more violence among factions fighting for control.

NOTE: The statement referred to former President Umar Hassan Ahmad al-Bashir of Sudan. It also referred to Executive Order 14098.

Categories: Statements by the President : Sudan situation.

Names: Bashir, Umar Hassan Ahmad al-.

Subjects: Ramadan; Sudan, democracy efforts; Sudan, international diplomatic efforts; Sudan, political unrest and violence; Sudan, U.S. Embassy personnel and citizens, evacuation; Sudan, U.S. sanctions.

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